

authorization for coverage for general anesthesia and associated hospital or ambulatory facility charges for dental care under certain circumstances; authorizing certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations to restrict coverage for general anesthesia and associated hospital or ambulatory facility charges to dental care that is provided by ~~a fully accredited specialist~~ certain dentists under certain circumstances; providing for a certain construction of this Act; providing for the applicability of this Act; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to coverage for general anesthesia for dental care in health insurance.

BY adding to

Article - Insurance
Section 15-826
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1997 Volume)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Health - General
Section 19-706(i)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1996 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Insurance

15-826.

(A) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO:

(1) INSURERS AND NONPROFIT HEALTH SERVICE PLANS THAT PROVIDE HOSPITAL, MEDICAL, OR SURGICAL BENEFITS TO INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS ON AN EXPENSE-INCURRED BASIS UNDER HEALTH INSURANCE POLICIES THAT ARE ISSUED OR DELIVERED IN THE STATE; AND

(2) HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROVIDE HOSPITAL, MEDICAL, OR SURGICAL BENEFITS TO INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS UNDER CONTRACTS THAT ARE ISSUED OR DELIVERED IN THE STATE.

(B) AN ENTITY SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION SHALL PROVIDE COVERAGE FOR GENERAL ANESTHESIA AND ASSOCIATED HOSPITAL OR AMBULATORY FACILITY CHARGES IN CONJUNCTION WITH DENTAL CARE PROVIDED TO AN ENROLLEE OR INSURED IF THE ENROLLEE OR INSURED:

(1) (I) IS 7 YEARS OF AGE OR YOUNGER OR IS DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED;